THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1864.

### LEGALIZED REPUDIATION.

We are glad to observe that Gov. Seymour, of New York, addressed a special message to the Legislature of that State, prior to its adjournment, remonstrating against the non-payment of the interest on the public debt in gold. He urged that the measure would be inconsistent with honesty; that if the State failed to meet its just obligations it would suffer lasting shame; that in a pecuniary point of view it would lose much more in its negotiations for new loans that the saving made on the interest; and that the proposed policy would tend to weaken, if not destroy, the credit of the General Government in foreign markets.

The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, a leading Republican paper, expressed the hope that the remonstrance of Gov. Seymour might have the effect of checking "the dishonest scheme," and adds:

"It is a ismentable instance of the lax morality which is prevalent in monetary matters—induced no doubt by the speculative mania which infects all classes, the natural respectrative mans which intects an eases, the author a suit of an enormous inflation of the currency—when our legi-lators can consent to shipwreck the financial credit of the State for the paltry consideration of effecting a saving of two or 'hree per cent. in the interest of the public debt. We should put but little faith in the commercial integrity of the men who advocate this swindling measure. The equities of the case are so plainly in favor of payment in coin that it seems hardly worth while to argue the ques-tion Plainly stated, the case stands thus: The State borrowed a certain amount of money in go d, which it pro mised to repay after a certain number of years, with in-terest meanwhile at six per cent., in the lawful currency of the United States. When it borrowed the money the only lawful currency was gold and silver coin, and in that or its equivalent, did the State receive its loan. Did it not agree to pay in the same? Was it contemplated by either borrower or lender that the law, making specie the only legal tender, would be changed so as to oblige the creditor to accept paper instead? Could the State have borrowed the money upon the terms it did, had such a change been provided for in the bond? The legality of the measure is not in question, for perfect legality is not synonymous with

In spite of the obvious considerations of justice and expediency which argue against this phase of legalized repudiation, the Legislature of New York has adjourned without reconsidering its action in this matter. The several steps by which this deplorable lapse has been reached are worthy of recital.

The Legislature of the State last year adopted a concurrent resolution on the subject in the following words:

"Resolved, That the interest accruing on so much o the State debt on the first day of April as was on the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, held by persons residing out of the United States, and is still held by them, be paid in gold or its equivalent."

An appropriation was made for the purchase of coin to an extent sufficient to enable the Comptroller to pay in gold the interest on the stocks of New York held by persons residing abroad, and only to that extent. Although the resolution of last year did not in terms forbid the payment of the interest due to creditors residing in this coun try in coin, yet the absence of any appropriation for the purpose obliged the Comptroller to forego such payment. In practice a distinction was thus made between the non-resident creditor and the resident creditor.

This year the facile descent prepared by the legislation of the preceding year ended in the adoption of the following resolution :

"Whereas all the stocks issued by this State were made payable and regotiable in this State: therefore "Resolved, That no distinction should be made between the foreign and domestic holders of such bonds as to the currency in which the principal and interest thereon should be paid."

The designed effect of this measure was to compel the Comptroller of the State to pay their accruing interest to both the foreign and domestic holders of the State securities in depreciated Tressury notes of the United States.

In the closing hours of the session of the Legislature, Mr. Humphrey, a member of the Senate, attempted to offer the following resolution; but, it requiring unanimous consent, and objection being made, he could not do so :

Resolved, (if the Assembly concur.) That the interest on the State debt, which has fallen due since the first day of January last, or which may fall due before the next asseion of the Legislature, be paid in gold coin, or

The protest of Governor Seymour was laid upon the table by a vote of 14 yeas against 13 nays.

The New York Journal of Commerce, in com menting on this proceeding, remarks as fellows: "Governor Seymour has exerted his utmost ability t

ave the State from the disgrace of repudiation. message on this subject is plain and explicit He could not seto the provision to pay in greenbacks, for there would then be no payment at all."

# THE LATE SPEECH OF MR. HARRIS.

From the St. Mary's (Md.) Gazette. Our readers, being the immediate constituents of M: Harris, will doubtless expect to read his speech in this issue of our paper, but the annexed communication, we presume, will satisfactorily account for our failure to publish it:

Headquarters, Cavalry Detachment, District of St. Mary's, Leonardtown, (Md.)

April 12, 1864.
SIR: The Commanding Officer of this detachment desire that you will not publish or make any allusion in the St.

Mary's Gazette to the treasonable and disgraceful speech
of the member of Congress from this district, delivered in
the House of Representatives on the 9th instant.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, F. W. Dickison, 1st. Lieut, 5th cavairy, Act'g. Adjt.
To the publisher and proprietor of the St. Mary's Gazette

# MEDLESS HAVOC AND WASTE.

We learn hom a citizen of Maryland that the troops of General Burnsice, in their late march from Annapolis to this city, whin encamping for a night near the Maryland Agricultura College, burnt up nearly four miles of fencing. On braking up their camp they left behind them blankets, equippents, and in some cases even arms. It strikes us that there should be some reparation made for fonces thus destroyed, to the great detriment of farming operations at this season; and it is obvious that there should be some military police to prevent the waste of soldiers' equipments during an easy march, effected under circumstances like that of Burnside's corps from An papolis to Washington.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYING STEAMBOATS. The Albany Knickerbocker (Rep.) says that the Govern ment agents are seizing all the vessels available on the North and East rivers, among which are the "Thomas Powell," "Connecticut," the propeller "Daniel S. Miller," the new steamer "Magenta," "Champion," "John Disney," "State of Maine," and "Matteawan." This looks

The Methodist Episcopal Church in Double Creek, Queen Anne's county, Maryland, was fired by some ind diary on the 16th instant, and entirely destroyed.

THE CONSTITUTION FOR ALL TIMES.

It is common for men of a certain political school to say that the limitations and reservations of the Constitution, defining the rights of the individual citizen, were meant for a time of peace and not for a period of war, like that upon which we have entered. In reply to this view of the Constitution Mr. Senator Writtey holds the following language :

"It is for the integrity of the Constitution, to restore its power and authority, that I understand we are now waging this terrible war. Its prosecution can be justified on no other consideration; and we shall do well to take beed to the fact that civil war, beyond all other causes, is fruit ful of pernicious and dangerous passions and antipathies leading to a disregard of constitutional obligations. The sectional character of the rebellion adds another and still more malignant element to the inflammation of public sentiment ordinarily incident to revolts against the civil authority. And I think I utter no paradox when I say further, that the manifest justice of our cause constitutes in itself a source of danger. Justly exasperated at the wan-ton wickedness of the bad men who, in seeking to overthrow our wise and benignant Government, have plunged the country into all the sins and sorrows by which we are surrounded, we are liable to be transported by a just and patriotic indignation beyond the limits of a lawful resentment. And now it is to be feared that corrupt men, dema-gogues, unprincipled politicians, will be ready to avail themselves of this patriotic excitement, and, under the cover and pretext of a koly zeal for the public good, seek to accomplish their own ambitious personal ends in de-fiance of the law. It is in times like this when written tingencies especially that our Constitution was ordained In times of peace and harmony and presperity, when there is little occasion or temptation to do wrong, but little there is little occasion or temptation to do wrong, but little restraint is required to prevent the commission of wrong When the sea is smooth and the wind is fair the vessel glides safely on with little attention to compass or rudder; but when the tempest rises and the waves roll high, and especially when the crew mutinies, then it requires a steady, true hand at the helm, and the trumpet of the compander about dutter no properties equipment. mander should utter no uncertain sound. So I may say now, when the great deep of the human passions is con-vulsed and lashed into phrenzy and tumuit by the shocks of battle, the nation's life depends upon a firm and unfaltering adherence to the Constitution. This is the great sheet anchor of the national safety. Nothing else can enable us o outride the storm that is beating upon us."

#### THE DANO-DUCHIES QUESTION.

Our Paris correspondent, under date of the 15th instant, writes :

"A tremendous bombardment is going on at the seat of war in the North. Meantime a new feature is developing tself in the approaching Conference. There seems no doubt that the French representatives will be instructed; under certain circumstances, to propose that the Duchies be called upon to decide for themselves, by universal suffrage, to what nation they chose to belong, Germany or Deamark, and by whom they will be governed. This proposition, however, will only be made, it is said, in case the treaty of London be thrown overboard. But, as there can be little doubt about the latter fagt, the probability is that the French policy will come into operation. What reception it will meet with remains to be seen.

#### APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED.

The Senate yesterday confirmed nominations to office by the President as follows: Col. S. Theyer, late of the Corps of Engineers. U. S.

Army, to be Brigadier General by brevet. To be Brigadier Generals of Volunteers.

Col. H. Burnham, 6th Maine Vols. Col. E. M. McCook, 2d Indiana Vols. Col. Lewis A. Grant, 5th Vermont Vols. Cot. Edw. Hatch, 2d Iowa Vols. J. C. Redfield to be Receiver of Public Moneys at Hum

boldt, Kansas.

### BLOCKADE RUNNERS.

The Navy Department has received information of the capture of the schooner Three Brothers by the steame Nita, off the coast of Florida, and the sinking and entire loss of the blockade-running schooner Wild Pigeon. The last named vessel was discovered by the steamer Hendrick Hudson, and as she was neared she suddenly steered directly across the Hudson's bows, and, in spite of all that could be done, the Hudson struck her directly amidships. staving the whole side in, and sinking her in three minutes, All the crew came aboard the Hudson, except one man. who jumped overboard and was drowned. The damage to the Hudson was very slight. The Wild Pigeon was

# REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The New York Tribune of Tuesday publishes the following letter to the National Republican Committee, urging them to postpone the National Convention until the first day of next September:

NEW YORK, MARCH 25, 1864. To the National Executive Committee of the Union and

Republican Parties. GENTLEMEN: The undersigned friends of the Govern ment and supporters of the present Administration re-spectfully suggest to you the propriety of reconsidering your recent action calling a Convention of the Union and Republican parties at Baltimore, on the 7th day of June next, to nominate a candidate for President of the United

In the opinion of the undersigned, the country is not now in a position to enter into a Presidential contest. It is very important that all parties friendly to the Government shall be united in support of a single candidate, and that when a selection shall be made it shall be acqui-seed in by all loyal sections of the country, and by all branches of the loyal party. It is equally clear that such unanimity cannot at present be obtained, and it is not believed that reached as early as the day named by you for the National Convention.

Upon the result of the measures adopted by the Admin istration to finish the war during the present spring and summer will depend the wish of the people to continue present leaders, or to change them to in power their present leaders, or to change them to those from whom they may expect other and more satisfactory results.

Whatever time may be gained will be an advantage to

In the opinion of the undersigned, whatever will tend to lessen the duration and allay the acrimony of the Presidential strife, which is always exciting and disturbing in

proportion to the length of the canvass, will be an advan-tage to the country.

In periods of war and great civil revulsions time is reckoned by events, and months are as years in the periods o

With a pure and patriotic desire to serve the best in the country, and in the belief that they will best served by a postponement of a political convention to the latest day possible, we respectfully ask that you will reconsider your action, and name a day for the assembling of the National Convention not earlier than the first day

September next.
Respectfully your obedient servants.
W. C. Bryant, of September next. W. C. Br.
J. McKeye,
George P. Putnam, Lorer
George Opdyke.
Senato William K. Strong. Wm. Curtis Noyes, Lorenzo Sherwoo New York State Senators.

A H. Bailey, . Albert Hobbs, A H. Bailey, James A. Bell, James M Cook, Charles J. Folger, N. M. Allen, Wilkes Angell, Daniel H. Cole, F. H. Hastings, S. T. Hayt, Cheney Ames, D. Strong, Frederick Juliand, Wm. Laimbeer, jr. R. H. Low, Contestant. E. Cornell.

The Tribune says : "The above list contains the name of two-thirds of the Uniquists chosen to our present State Senate. Others, who would doubtless have signed, were not in Albany when the above signatures were given. We understand that but two Senators declined to affix their

HON. JAMES K. MOORHEAD has been renominated by acclamation to the Thirty-ninth Congress from the Twenty econd district of Pennsylvania. Mr. Moorhead was first nominated to the Thirty-sixth Congress, after a close contest, and his constituents have shown their apprecia tion of the services of a faithful public servant by success sive unanimous renommations—a fact creditable alike to the representative and his constituency. His colleague, the Hon. Thomas Williams, from the Twenty-third district, received the nomination of Allegheny county, also by acclamation. Armstrong and Butler counties belong to his district, but have not yet voted.

#### CONGRESS-WEDNESDAY.

The SENATE was on Wednesday mainly engaged with the bill to provide a national currency secured by United States bonds. The immediate question was on an amendment, reported from the Committee on Finance, which proposes to impose on Banks a tax of one-half of one per cent. on their circulation, one-fourth of one per cent. on their deposits, and one-fourth of one per cent. on their capital beyond that which is in United States bonds; but proriding that States, municipalities, and counties may tax every day. Meanwhile the organization of the expedition the shares of a bank held by individuals or corporations the same as other private means. Mr. POMEROY moved to amend this amendment by striking out the proviso in regard to State and municipal taxation, and insert a proviso that nothing in this act shall be construed as exempting the capital stock beyond the amount invested in United States bonds and deposited as security for circulation from being subject to State and municipal taxes, the same as other personal property where the association is ocated. This amendment was debated at considerable length, after which the further consideration of the subject was postponed until to-day, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business.

The House of Representatives was occupied all day with the revenue bill. Many amendments were made. among them one requiring commercial brokers to pay a tax of twenty-five dollars per year, without regard to the extent of their business. The bill will come up for action in the House to-day.

#### HISTORY OF THE FORGED LETTERS.

An article in our paper of yesterday, copied from the Cincinnati "Commercial," stated briefly the fact that two letters read in the House of Representatives on the 19th instant, impeaching the loyalty of two Representatives in the last Congress from the State of Indiana, were forgeries. We now learn that these forgeries were not committed with any criminal intent.

The letters are as follow-the name having been suppressed in the copies presented to the House lest their publication might bring Mr. Rankin in trouble:

Rockville, (Ind.) July 14, 1863.

Major Gen. John C. Breckinridge.

Dear Sir: I take great pleasure in recommending to your favorable acquaintance the bearer, Mr. Oliver S. Raskin, of Greencatle, in this State. He wishes to visit the South, and in the subject to any danger from such a visit. Mr Rankin was connected with the army for some months as a quartermaster of the 10th Indiana Volucteers, but resigned immediately after the evacuation of Corinth by our forces, and has had no sympathy or connexion with the army since. Any duty he may sgree to perform you may rely upon it that it duty he may gree to perform you may rely upon it that it will be faithfully done. Any favor shown him will be reciprocated by me whenever any opcortunity offers.

I am, General, yours, with much respect,

John G. Davis.

GREENCASTLE, (IND.) JULY 1, 1863. OFFICE OF STREET o your cause. I can safely recommend him to you as an energetic as d faithful man in any caracity you may place him, and I know that he can be of valuable assistance to you. Mr Rackin was for some time connected with the Union army, but became disgn ted with the party in power, and resigned in consequence thereof. Any favor that may be shown him will, I am satisfied, never be betrayed.

I am, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. ECKLES. To Gen. J. C. Breckinridge, C. S. A.

THE SERVICES OF MR. RANKIN.

The following account of Mr. Rankin and of the writing and purpose of the foregoing letters is copied from the Indianapolis Sentinel:

"Oliver 8 Rankin, the person introduced by these letters, was well known in this State. In the three months' service he was employed as a bugler by Col. Manson.

Afterwards, in the three years' service, he was appointed quariermaster of the Teuth Indiana Regiment, and when Col. Manson was premoted he became brigade quartermaster under him. He is represented to have been a fine officer—brave, dashing, and reckless. Subsequently, under Gen. Rosecrans, he was employed as a spy. In that character he had crossed thrice into the rebel lines and obtained valuable information. The last time he came rom rebeldom it was in the character of a rebel mail car from rebeldom it was in the character of a rebel mail car-rier. He was tall, with an enduring frame, and mentally of the keenest penetration. When here last July he had the appearance of a Soutzern fire-eater; with long hair, a planter's hat, and grey suit, he looked the character well. At that ti e the letters which purport to come from John G Davis and D R. Eckles, introducing Rankin to John C. Breckinridge, were prepared. They were written at the clerk's de k in the office of Little's Hotel, in this city. John G Davis and Delana R. Eckles had no more kn wledge of the matter, had no more to do with writing or suggesting them, than Abraham Lincoln. They were not in the city at that time Rankin was then about to start on what he considered a perilous trip. He so expressed He told them he did not expect to get through alive, and remarked that some day they would read an extract from some rebel paper announcing that another Yankee spy had been hung. He knew that Messrs Davis and Eckles had been well acquainted with Breckinridge, and the letters were written with the hope that they would aid him in case he should be arrested or is character suspected. And it was his intention, if he had returned in safety, to have destroyed them. He so

"In corroboration of what we state, we produce the statement of Mr. J. McD. Hays, who has been office clerk in Little's Hotel for two years past, and who is well known as a young gentleman of strict integrity and veracity. Mr. Hays has long been an intimate friend of Rackin's. As will be seen, he was present when the etters were written; he read them after they were written, and he knows them to be bogue. He pronounces them such, and that Messre. Davis and Eckles had no knowledge or complicity in the matter whatever. Other parties were present at the time and are cognizant of

# STATEMENT OF MR. HAVS.

The undersigned was well acquainted with Oliver Rankin. The last time I saw him was at Little's Hotel in this city, in July, 1863. I have read the letters read by General Garfield in the United States House of Representatives, dated July, 1863, purporting to have been written by Hon, John G. Davis and D. R. Eckles, (or Eckels.) introducing said Rankin to J hn C. Brecknridge, a general in the rebel army. To my knowedge those letters were written in the office of ittle's Hotel. I saw them written. Neither John G. Davis nor D. R. Eckles had any participation in or knowledge of the matter whatever. The said Rankin was acting in the capacity of a spy. He had as such crossed the rebel lines three times. The last time his friends heard from Rankin was three days before the battle of Chickaman a, and then he was at Bragg's headquarters, and they new suppose him to be dead. The object the said had in view in writing the letters referred to was to aid him no se he should be arrested by the rebels, as e thought ac eleters would recommend him to the rebel authorities in such an event, and help conceal his true

I make this statement as a matter of justice to Messrs Rankin and Eckles, whom I know, but with whom I have no political sympathy. It was the purpose of Kankin to have destroyed the letters named above if he had returned

safety.

Mr. Rankin was a staunch Union man and an excellent His daring and bravery had received many commendations from his superior officers. Gen. Manson com-plimented him very highly in his official report for his ser-vices at the battle of Mill Springs. J. Mc. D. HAYS.

Governors BROUGH, of Ohio; MORTON, of Indiana; YATES, of Illinois, and STONE, of Wisconsin, are on a visit to this city.

# MILITARY AND CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

The following nominations of the President have been lately confirmed by the Senate:

Brigadier General James B. Steedman, of the United States volunteers, to be major general of the volunteer force, agreeably to the nomination, confirmed April 20, 1964.

William Kellogg, of Illinois, to be minister resident of the United States to Guatemala.
Solomon P. McCurdy, of Missouri, to be an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Utah. George W. Wood, of New York, to be consul of the United States at Muscat.

George C. Taylor, of New York, to be consul of the United States at Cairo, Egypt.

John G. Hinckley, of New York, to be consul of the

United States at Nassau, New Providence.
Charles C. Scholes, John R. French, and James R. Ridgely, to be direct tax commissioners for the insurrectionary district of North Carolina, as provided by act of Congress approved June 7, 1862.

A RAFT ON FIRE .- A few days since a raft was discovered to be on fire while passing down the Susquehanna river. Persons from the shore finally reached her, when they found three men on board, one burned to a crisp and the other two inscusible. Nothing could be learned of them; but it is supposed that the raft took fire while they were asleep or under the influence of liquor.

### SOUTHERN MILITARY NEWS.

From the Richmond Enquirer of April 19th. A gentleman who left Maryland about ten days ago brings us some interesting information from that quarter. He recently visited the camp of Gen. Burnside, at Annapolis, where he encountered four thousand two hundred tents, and learned that the forces amounted to about thirty thousand men The transports to convey them to their proposed destination had not arrived, but were expected was progressing with great industry. The opinion pre-vailing in Annapolis, Boltimore, and Washington indicated the James river as a basis of operation for this formidable diversion. Burnside is to land a short distance below Drury Biuff, which he is to take by assault, whilst Meade advances on Petersburg. Troops have been pouring through Baltimore for the past two months. The regiments are spoken of as full, though of indifferent material. The Yankees, so far as our informent had opportunities of acquainting himself with their private views, universally agreed that the present was the last campaign in Virginia. If Grant should suffer a defeat " the game was up."

VIEWS OF THE APPROACHING CAMPAIGN. With what will the President electrify the country be fore the meeting of the next Congress, which assembles now in less than thirty days? Will it be Maximilan's recognition? Will it be France and England combining to raise the blockade? Will it be a victory? Of all the good news that the President could communicate, a victory would most electrify his fellow-citizens and most depress the public enemy.

Grant is said to be planning another "on to Richmond." with Smith and Burnside upon our flanks and rear. The vast preparations for the campaign are duly notified to our authorities; indeed, so publicly is the concentration being made, so ostentatious are the enemy of all their arrange ments, that one cannot but doubt if these indications are not designed to deceive. The press of the United States have duly advised us of the reorganization of the Army of the Potomse, and so circumstantially and fully that it was no difficult matter to correctly estimate its effective strength. Gen Burnside writes letters, which are pubhisbed in the New York papers, that he is preparing a command for early active operations, that Annapolis is his rendezvous, and we are further informed that North Car-

olina is his destination.

Gen. Smith has been carried to Fortress Monroe in the most public manner, accompanying Gen. Grant, and the two corps that he is to command in an expedition up the Peninsula are published in the principal journals of the country, and these most obligingly brought to our authorities by the enemy's flav of truce boat. If no efforts have been made to conceal these preparations, certainly none have been taken to prevent our learning them; for the flag of truce boat has regularly delivered full files of the papers that were known to contain them. Why, then, has this publicity been given to preparations that all military experience teaches should be most sedulously kept secret

experience teaches should be most sedulously kept secret:

Can it be supposed that Gen Grant is so confident of success that, like the Carthaginian General, he would prefer to fight two armies to falling upon one? Is it to be supposed that he has been so intoxicated by success that despises the usual precautions which the rudiments of military science demand? We can hardly think so nor will the authorities of the Confederate States be deceived

by this shallow device.

We have no evidence of concentration on our part—no passage of troops from one department to another. Beauregard still watches the enemy from the fortifications of Charleston, or seeks a fight in the swamps of Florida. Charleston, or seeks a light in the swamps of Florida. From Southwestern Virginia we hear rumors of movements into Keotucky and Tennessee. Pickett and Whiting still hold their positions in North Carolina, and the "all is quiet" on the Rapid Ann is unbroken by even a rumor. What efforts, then, are being made to meet this threatened advance? We can only conclude that newspaper strategy and editorial campaigns have failed to make that impression which takes action, and that our authorities in pression of batter information and that our authorities in pression of batter information. ties, in possession of better information, are biding their time, and holding positions which, like that of Southwest ern Virginia, is a point from which an advance can b made right through the centre of the enemy's lines, an St. te of Kentucky, turning all positions in East Tennessee, and, like Bregg's campaign, throwing the enemy back upon the Ohio, by threatening Cincinnati and Louisville.

THE FORT FICATIONS AT SHREVEPORT. We had the pleasure yesterday of an interview with Capt. John W. Hinsdaie, of Gen. Holmes' Staff, who has just arrived from Shreveport, Louisiana, and from whom we obtain some late and interesting Trans Mississippi intelligence. Captain Hinsdale left Shreveport on the 22d ultimo, at which time the place was garrisoned by a suffi cient force to hold it against the expected attack. The fortifications are complete and very extensive, the natural advantages of the place, which are considerable, having been improved on by much engineering skill and labor The river at Shreveport is about three hundred yards wide. The opposite banks are low and the soil so boggy as to prevent an advance from that side. Our batteries are sufficiently elevated to secure plunging shots against the iron-clads, and the guns are of heavy calibre and well nted. In addition to the structed to such an extent that the fleet cannot advance danger. The garrison is provisioned for a siege of six months; the tree s are in the best of spirits, and repos unlimited confidence in Gen. Smith. The Trans-Missis

tions have place within the past year, it is true, but the practice has ceased and the army, now thoroughly weed ed. tested, and harmonious, and, under a favorite leader, is prepared for victory.

Gen. Holmes has been relieved from duty in the Arkar as district at his own request, and reports to Richmo for orders Gen. Sterling Price assumes command of the department vacated by Gen. Holmes. He has a fine com mand of brave and enthusia-tic troops. The forces of Banks, in the expedition, are estimated at twenty-tw thousand men. The gunboats, according to the statements

sippi army was never in better condition. Many deser

#### of the enemy, are twenty in number. THE FRENCH TOBACCO.

The French tobacco stored in this city, and which wi soon be shipped to Europe, consists of between seven and eight thousand hogsheads, all of which is of fine quality, and worth several millions of dollars. To transport it away at once will require seven or eight ships, and it is said that the requisite number will be at City Point in a day or two. The quiet manner in which the Yankee Go ernment backed down from its refusal to permit this to bacco to pass the blockade shows the stamina of Yankes pluck before the expressed demands of France, and testification with equal force to the cave in policy of that same nation upon any emergency wherever the opposing Power ha pluck enough itself to pursue its demands with even decen pereistency. It has been the custom of the French Go ernment to purchase two years' supply of tobacco at time, and keep slways two years' supply abead. The last supply was evidently giving out, and as tobacco is one of he necessaries of a Frenchman's existence, it would hard! have been wise, or even judiciously brave for the Yanka Sovernment to have stuck to its determination of pro biting its exportation from Richmond. The Confederal Government gains by the operation the export duties, and maintains its prestige for fair dealing.

THE LATE PROVOST MARSHAL OF BALTIMORE

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE. Washington, April 25, 1864.

Col. William H. Fish, First Connecticut cavalry, ha een convicted by court martial of conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline in having made a fraudulent claim against the United States, and received pay ment for a horse lost in the military service claimed as his personal property, but belonging to the United States Government; appropriating to his own use and benefit goods seized by him while acting as Provost Marshal of the Middle Department; delivering up a large sum of money in his possession as Provost Marshal to a person claiming it as his property, and corruptly receiving in consideration of thus delivering it up the sum of two hundred dollars or thereabouts; in having caused the Government brand to be removed from a Government horse, and the selling the same as his own property; also, of using fals accounts and vouchers, knowing the same to contain fals statements, for the purpose of obtaining an approval of false claims against the United States, contrary to the

The Court sentenced said Col Fish to be eashiered, to forfeit to the United States all pay and allowances due and to become due to him from the United States, and to pay to the United States a fine of five thousand dollars, nd to be imprisoned in the penitentiary, at Albany, New York, or in such other place as the Secretary of War shall direct, until such fine shall be paid: provided, that such perisonment shall not be less than

The foregoing sentence has been approved by the Secre tary of War, and Albany, New York, designated as the place of confinement, which has been approved by the President. E. D. TOWNSEND. Ass't Adj't General.

The Ohio Statesman has an account of a mob in Gree ville, Dark county, (Ohio ) on Monday, the 18th instant, during which the law office of the Hon. Wm. Allen, as Ex Senator in Congress and a "Democrat," was assaile and gutted, and Mr Allen himself suffered violence The Statesman charges the responsibility of the disturbance upon "Abolition fanatics," "Loyal Lesguers," and "drunken soldiers." No other particulars are given.

### THE DEBT OF THE UNITED STATES.

The following statistics of the debt of the Inited States are contained in the current number of Hunt's Merchants' Magazine :

Total, March 1, 1864	TotalLess amount in Treasury	4 per cent. Treasury Loan. 5 per cent. Treasury Loan. Temporary Loan, coin. Past due Treasury Notes Suspended reqs.  Temporary liabilities O.d public debt. Three year 7 30 Bonds U. S. N. Fractional Currency. 20 Year Loan of 1861. 20 Year Treasury Notes. 2 Year Treasury Notes. 2 Year Treasury Notes. Oregon W. Debt. Certificate of Indebtedness. 6 per cent 5 20 Bonds.	Nature of Debt.
\$1 469,192,649 66	\$1,473,225 714 35 4,033,064 69	\$1 526 092 0 30 293 404 31 9 547 00 13,000 00 21,375,060 27 \$53,217,203 68 67,221,591 10 139 536 450 00 450 785 004 60 18 246 290 15 50,000 000 00 18 20 000 000 00 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	February 2.
\$1,513 291,042 35	\$1,513,702,837 62 9,411,795 27	\$1.037 392 39 40,188,919 46 4.450 (0 164,150 00 7,830 817 00 848 725 728 68 67,447,412 55 138 772,300 00 449,119,548 10 13,745 720 15 50,000 000 00 1,227 000 00 1,227 000 00 1,227 000 00 1,227 000 00 1,227 000 00 1,227 000 00 1,227 000 00 1,227 000 00 136,121 650 00 530,135,121 650 00 530,135,146 92	March 2.
\$1,513 291,042 35 \$1,580,201,774 24	\$1,596,999,429,38 16,797,655,14	\$943 699 29 6 47,207,545 38 0 44,507,545 38 0 46,971,278 45 671,474 12 55 138,063 800 00 449,073,616 60 19 173 320 15 50 000,000 00 14 500,000 00 14 500,000 00 115,581,414 03 1 1016,000 00 131,093,000 00 131,093,000 00	March 15.

This presents a very interesting chart of the Treasury novements. In the first fifteen days of March it appears \$7,000,000 have been deposited at five per cent. with the Treasury under five per cent. temporary loan head. There have been issued \$400 000 fractional notes, \$9,000,000 one year legal-tender, and \$20,000,000 of two year legaltender; making an increase of \$29,400,000 in floating paper, or very nearly \$2,000,000 per day. At the same time the "suspended requisitions" have increased \$39,640,461 45. These probably embrace the army pay due on the first of March.

The seven thirty notes decreased, it appears, \$708 748 and the twenty-year bonds increased \$708,500, showing the conversion of the former into the latter under this law. The means of the Department in that fifteen days were

then *s lollows:	
Received on deposit, 5 per cent	\$7.018,626
I tine vent legal-tender notes issued	9.740.000
Two year legal-tender notes issued	20,079,383
Two year legal-tender notes issued Fractional currency	427,600
Total means	20 005 000
Unpaid requisitions	30,640,416
Total increase fifteen days	875,903,025
Almost the sole dependence for this expend	

issues were stopped by the following order, thus leaving the one year notes alone to meet the daily wants of fully two millions per day : TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES, Washington. Tuesday, March 14.

Subscriptions having been received for the total amount of two-year five per cent. Treasury notes with coupons attached, which it is proposed to issue, you will please receive no deposits on account of such notes after the research of this period.

it appears, the legal-tender notes, of which the two-year

F E. SPINNER, Treasurer United States. There were then issued some new two year notes bearing interest, five per cent , payable at the maturity of the note. On the 95th of March a new loan was offered under the law of March 3, 1864, being a five per cent. 1040 vear stock.

eigt of this notice.

It appears from the above statement of debt that the mount which bears gold interest is \$764 202,812, and the annual interest is \$45.852.168 The largest amount ever obtained from the customs was, last year, \$69 059,642 In 1858 the amount was \$48,000,000. The increase of the public debt has been as follows:

	July 1, 1862	\$508 526 499 1,098 793 181 1,272,113 559		1
March 15, 1864 1,580,201,774 2,157,150	March 15, 1804	1,580,201,774	2,157,150	8

The appropriations for the year ending July 1 are over \$1,300,000,000, and the present laws authorize \$1,100,-000,000 of gold interest debt. Hence the expenses of the next seven months are likely to be as much as for the last six months, viz: \$2,157,150 per day, which will give an increase of \$453,001,500 in the debt, and this must be derived either from more paper or gold interest debt. In the latter case, \$27,000,000 will be added to the gold interest, and four and a half million to the sinking fund making a demand, within the next twelve months, or \$85,000,000 in gold.

# GEN. F. P. BLAIR.

On Saturday the President assigned Major Gen. Blair, of Missouri, to the command of the Seventeenth (McPher son's) Army Corps, now in the Department of the Mississippi, and he left this city on Sunday evening to join his ommand.

After the speech of Gen. BLAIR on Saturday, following the report of the select commistee of the House of Representatives exonerating him from the charges reproduced by Mr. McClurg, several members of the House and other personal friends of Gen. Blair repaired to Galt & Bro's establishment and purchased a sword, with a solid silver scabbard, and a belt, sash, and spurs, costing in all five hundred dollars, which were presented on Saturday evening to the General at his lodgings.

Col. Morrison, a Representative in Congress from Illi nois, in presenting this handsome testimonial, said that it gave him great pleasure to be able to say to Gen. Blair that it was the gift of a few of his personal friends representing different political parties, but all earnest Union men, and all in favor of a speedy suppression of the rebellion. It was but a slight acknowledgment on their part of the gallant services rendered by Gen. Blair in defence of the Union. Gen. Blair replied that he was very much gratified to

receive such a gift, especially from the hands of Col. Morrison, who never yielded up but one sword which he had drawn in defence of the country, and then not until obliged to do so by disability from wounds received in battle a Fort Donelson. Gen. B. concluded by announcing hi intention to leave the city immediately to resume command in the Army of the West.

# NORTHWESTERN MILITIA CALLED OUT.

On Saturday Governors Lewis, of Wisconsin; YATES. Illinois: STONE, of Iowa; MORTON, of Indiana; BROUGH, of Ohio, and BLAIR, of Michigan, jointly tendered the President of the United States one hundred thousand troops, to serve one hundred days; to be clothed, armed, and equipped by the United States Government the men to be raised within the limits of the several North western States named. This proposition was accepted by the President, and the Secretary of War was subsequently instructed to receive these troops. Four or five of the above-named Governors issued their State proclamations in this city, and sent them forward on Saturday. This movement on the part of the Northwestern States,

whose several quotas under previous calls are filled, is an act of patriotism worthy of the imitation by other States of the Union. The first proposition made to the Government by the Northwestern Governors was that the President issue his proclamation for one hundred thousand six months' men, but, owing to difficulties that could not be immediately overcome, they agreed to make the proposition first above mentioned, and which we are glad to be able to state has been accepted. It is believed by the distinguished gentlemen who have tendered this new auxiliary force that they will be able to raise it within twenty five days. This new army will garrison all the posts and forts on the frontier and in the rear of active operations, thus enabling the veterans now doing post and garrison duty to join our armies in the field .- Rep.

# NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

### LATEST DESPATCHES:

FROM CHATTANOOGA.

CHATTANOOGA, APRIL 24 .- On Friday morning, at daybreak, the rebels approached our outer videttes, in Nicksjack Gap, and were challenged, and one shot by the sentinel, who retreated on the mounted reserve. They attacked the reserve in large force, capturing twelve and killing four. Four of the wounded were killed after falling into the hands of the rebels, but their bodies were recovered. Our cavalry force was about forty, and belonged to Minty's command. Some of our wounded made affidavit that they were fired at by the rebels while lying upon the ground in

On Friday morning fifty rebels crossed the railway near Charleston, but did not disturb the track. They were pursued by our cavalry, and twelve were captured.

The regular complement of rebel deserters arrive

#### EUROPEAN NEWS.

NEW YORK, APRIL 27 .- The steamship City of New York has arrived from Liverpool April 13th.

In the House of Commons on the 12th instant the Ministry were defeated by a majority of eight votes on the minor educational question..

Garibaldi was received in London with much enthusiasm. He visited Lord Palmerston, and staid an hour; also, Mr. Stansfield, who was implicated in the recent conspiracy.

The Morning Herald says that Lord Clarendon's mirsion to Paris is to restore amicable relations and dispel Napoleon's irritation against England.

The Emperor Maximilian's health is improved. It is stated that he will leave Miramar en route for Mexico on the 14th of April. He has made sundry diplomatic and ministerial appointments. The Prussians continued a vigorous bombardment of

Duppel. It was reported that the Danish fire was very weak. Several batteries have been silenced. A Flensburg despatch says that the Danes are prepar-

ing to evacuate the entrenchments. The Prussians in Jutland have advanced further north

ward. They drove the Danes out of Horsens after a short engagement. The Conference has not yet assembled at London LIVERPOOL, APRIL 14.—The bombardment of Duppel

continues vigorously. An unsuccessful attempt has been made to assault the place. It is stated that the Danes have shown signs of retreat. Maximilian is better, and will probably sail for Mexico on the 14 h.

The Conference has not yet assembled. The United States frigate Jamestown was at Macao at

### THE FRENCH TOBACCO IN RICHMOND.

NEW YORK, APRIL 27 .- A despatch from Fort Monroe says that the steamer Greyhound has been sent up the James river to City Point to order down the two French steamers and two sailing vessels which recently went up there after the tobacco belonging to the French Government. The vessels would be back in Hampton Roads to-day, it is said, without any tobacco.

### MARYLAND CONVENTION. BALTIMORE, APRIL 27.-The Constitutional Conven-

tion assembled at Annapolis to-day at noon. Henry H. Goldsborough, the Comptroller of the Treasury, and one of the first champions of emancipation in the State, was elected President, receiving the unanimous vote of the Union members. The Democrats did not vote. Fourteen of the Democrats elected did not take their seats: It is not known whether they will do so or not.

# LATEST FROM THE ARMY IN LOUISIANA.

Sr. Louis, April. 25 -Cairo dates to yesterday, received here by mail, state that the steamer Von Phul, from Now Orleans on the evening of the 18th instant, had ar-

It seems to be generally conceded that the battles in Louisiana have been against Gen Banks, as, while the enemy remained on the ground after Saturday's fight, Gen. Banks retreated forty miles. The transport Black Hawk suffered considerably when

above Alexandria, from the enemy, besides having several The steamers Rob Roy and Mattle Stephens had arrived at New Orleans from the Red river, having run the gauntlet of a large number of guerallas. The Rob Roy had four guns, and fought most of the way down One soldier

was killed and four wounded on the Mattie Stephens. The rebels are still in the vicinity of Pleasant Ridge. Our army was at Grand Ecore, fortifying both sides of the river. Gen. Banks and Admiral Porter are both there. There was only five feet of water at Grand Ecore. The

guaboat Eastport was aground there. All the large boats were below, but the light-draught boats were above. The prisoners taken say that Kirby Smith and Sibley

were killed in the recent battles. The steamer La Crosse, from the Red river for New Orleans, having stopped at a plantation to take on cotton, the crew and soldiers got drunk at a distillery on the place, when a company of the 1st Louisions (rebel) cavalry made a descent on the boat. The passengers and crew, after being robbed, were paroled, and the boat and cotton were

# THE WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST.

ST. Louis, Apail 25 .- Advices from Memphis of the 22d say that Forrest's entire force were moving towards Alabama, followed by Grierson. Polk was said to be marching North, and Forrest would probably join him. On the morning of the 21st Grierson's cavalry came upon some of Forrest's troops, near Huntsville, when a sharp fight ensued. The rebels retreated in the direction of Jackson. passing through Lagrange. A number of prisoners, horses, mules, and wagons were captured from them and taken to Memphis. Grierson has picked up a few of Forrest's men. but Forrest keeps his troops well together, and is too strong for a successful attack. His headquarters are still at Jack son, Tennessee.

Gen. Price had evacuated Camilen, (Ark.) and Gen. Steele occupied the place.

# THE DISASTER IN NORTH CAROLINA.

BALTIMORE, APRIL 25 .-- A letter from Fortress Monroe says that Capt. Weatherbee, of the 23d Massachusetts regiment, just arrived from Rosnoke Island, reports that Gen. Wessels surrendered to the enemy at Plymouth on Wednesday, after nearly four days' hard fighting. Our loss was one hundred and eighty killed and twenty-five hundred captured.

There are reports on the street here this morning, purporting to have been brought by a "colored sutler," that the colored Federal troops at Plymouth (N. C.) were murdered after the surrender of the place by the rebels. There are no means of verifying this statement, and the rumor is probably without foundation.

#### REBEL OFFICIAL ACCOUNT. The Richmond Sentinel of April 22d says that the following despatch has been received by Gen. Bragg:

PLYMOUTH. (N. C.) APRIL 20, 1864. To Gen. Braxton Bragg: I have stormed and carried this place, capturing one brigadier, one thousand six hundred men, stores, and twenty five pieces of artillery.

R. F. HOKE, Brigadier General. The Sentinel also states that a telegram was also re-

ceived by Gen. Jefferson Davis from Col. John Taylor Wood, dated Rocky Mount, 21st instant, giving further particulars of the capture of Plymouth by the forces under Gen. Hoke, with naval co-operation. He says: "About twenty-five hundred prisoners were taken, (three

or four hundred of them our es, thirty pieces of artillery, one hundred thousand pounds of meat, one thousand barrels of flour, and a full garrison outfit. Our loss was about three hundred in all. Col. Morce was among the killed. Two gunboa's were sunk, another disabled, and a

The sewing women of Philadelphia have held a public meeting to protest against the starvation prices paid for their work.